(*b*) whether action is being taken in accordance with that recommendation ?

MR. R. M. STATHAM : (*a*) The Economic Depression Enquiry Committee recommended that the fines be discontinued or at least reduced during the period of the depression.

(*b*) Yes ; the fines have been considerably reduced.

MR. K. K. THOMAS: Are the Government aware that there are still schools which levy fines for late payment of fees ?

MR. R. M. STATHAM : Yes. Before this recommendation was made the English Schools used to levy 4 chuckarams fine for the 1st 10 days and afterwards at the rate of 12 chuckrams. The Vernacular Schools levied at the rate of 1 chuckram for the 1st 10 days and 4 chuckrams afterwards. Now after the Government order the levy of fines has been considerably reduced. English School fines do not exceed 4 chuckrams and Vernacular School fines do not exceed 1 chuckram. That is the information.

MR. K. K. THOMAS : Does the member know about the levy of fines in aided high schools ?

MR. R. M. STATHAM : I have no information.

Complaints received by Government against Mr. E T. Kurien.

23 *MR. P. PADMANABHAN TAMPI (*Kalkulam* cum *Vilavankod*) : Will the Government be pleased to state whether they have received complaints against Mr. E. T. Kurien, First Class Magistrate and District Munsiff, Devicolam, attributing to him grave irregularities in the conduct of criminal cases ?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*) : A petition was received from Shanmugavel Gownden and other cardamom ryots of Devicolam complaining against the alleged official vagaries of Mr. E. T. Kurien, B. A. & B. L., Munsiff-Magistrate, Devicolam.

MR. P. PADMANABHAN TAMPI: Will the member be pleased to state the number of cases filed in the First Class Magistrate's Court, Devicolam, in 1108 ?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI: I claim notice.

MR. P. PADMANABHAN TAMPI: I sent this question long ago. The question remains unanswered.

PRESIDENT: That does not arise.

MR. P. PADMANABHAN TAMPI: Is the member aware that Mr. E. T. Kurien, Munsiff-Magistrate, Devicolam, has, under Section 307 T. P. C. in C. C. No. 87/118, awarded rigorous imprisonment where simple imprisonment or fine has to be given ?

PRESIDENT: Is this one of the complaints made against him ?

MR. P. PADMANABHAN TAMPI: Yes, Sir.

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI: In the petition received by Government there is no reference to this matter. Therefore I claim notice.

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MR. P. PADMANABHAN TAMPI: Is the member aware that this specific question was sent to the Government by me along with other interpellations ?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI: May be. But that question will be answered in due course.

MR. P. PADMANABHAN TAMPI: May I know what is the sort of notice that the member now claims ?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI: I can only answer a specific question. If the question which the member referred to a little while ago comes up for answer, then he can put supplementary questions on that. I am now answering only a particular question which has no reference to the case cited by the member.

MR. P. PADMANABHAN TAMPI: Will the member be pleased to state the number of cases in which the party has applied in the High Court for transfer of cases from the file of the First Class Magistrate's Court at Devicolam ?

PRESIDENT: That does not arise.

MR. P. PADMANABHAN TAMPI: All these questions have been sent by me long ago.

PRESIDENT: They will be answered in due course. Now we are daling with one particular question and you can ask a supplementary question or questions, relevant to that question.

Water Convenience in Eraniel town.

24. *MR. P. PADMANABHAN TAMPI: Will the Government be pleased to state whether good drinking water is available in Eraniel town ?

MR. A. KUMARA PILLAI: (*Secretary to Government*): No.

MR. P. PADMANABHAN TAMPI: Will the Government be pleased to state how the people of the locality drink good water ?

MR. A. KUMARA PILLAI: They get water to drink from the Kodayar channel running nearby.

MR. P. PADMANABHAN TAMPI: May I know whether Kodayar water will be available throughout the year ?

MR. A. KUMARA PILLAI: No.

MR. P. PADMANABHAN TAMPI: Then what steps have they taken for the supply of good drinking water ?

MR. A. KUMARA PILLAI: Government are thinking of providing good water for the people of the locality by sinking more wells there.

MR. P. PADMANABHAN TAMPI: Sir, we are not supplied with the answer to unstarred questions.

PRESIDENT: Answers to unstarred questions will be caused to be printed in the official proceedings of the Council as early as possible. The answers are placed in the Press Room also.

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